

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

29 AUGUST 1962
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. USSR - Nuclear Tests

[redacted]
[redacted]
the Russians are preparing to conduct high-altitude nuclear tests over Novaya Zemlya sometime in the next few days. The best guess at present is that the delivery vehicle will be a missile fired from Tyuratam or possibly one of the operational ICBM sites, such as Plesetsk.

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2. USSR - East Germany

a. The Soviet air army in East Germany is being beefed up with the latest modification of the MIG-21, [redacted]

[redacted] At least 25 of these aircraft have appeared on the scene during the past three months, and more are on the way. [redacted]

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b. Ulbricht did not return to East Berlin as expected when his airplane came back yesterday. At last report, he was in conference with Khrushchev at Sochi. [redacted]
[redacted]

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3. Cuba

a. There is no sign of a let-up in the movement of Soviet equipment and personnel into Cuba.

b. By latest count, there have during the past six weeks been some 80 voyages to Cuban ports by Cuban vessels and 20 to 35 by ships under Communist charter.

c. We note that deliveries of industrial equipment, foodstuffs, and other nonmilitary items are being made largely on chartered Western ships, probably because so many Soviet ships are involved in hauling military gear. [REDACTED]

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d. We now estimate the Cuban air force to have an inventory of 58 MIG aircraft. [REDACTED]

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e. On Monday, the Communist-operated Liberation Front for South Vietnam opened offices in Havana, thereby establishing its first permanent mission abroad.

4. Laos

a. The Viet Minh "withdrawal" act continues.

b. Fifteen khaki-uniformed men showed up at the Plaine des Jarres checkpoint on Monday for air evacuation to Hanoi. An ICC team was on hand, but had no opportunity to talk with the evacuees and was denied a request to examine their papers. The Indian chairman of the team got a look at the flight manifest, which listed five officers and ten NCO's.

c. The stand-down in Soviet flight activity into Laos is continuing. It now seems pretty clear that the airlift has been terminated as a regular air supply activity.

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5. Congo

a. Tshombé yesterday listened to a joint presentation by the US, British, and Belgian Consuls supporting the UN's national reconciliation plan. He implied he would accept the plan, but made no commitments.

b. It looks as though he will delay his final answer until Monday, the end of the 10-day limit the UN set. Questions of finance and control of the Katanga gendarmerie loom as the chief sticking points.

c. In Leopoldville, Adoula seems to be wobbling under pressure from local Stanleyvillers and the Casablanca powers to release Gizenga.

For The President Only—Top Secret

6. UAR - Arab League -
Syria

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b. There is no question [redacted]
[redacted] that Nasir has been badly em-
barrassed by the defection to Syria
of one of his top intelligence offi-
cers, and outraged by Syria's ex-
ploitation of the case.

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c. As a precautionary measure,
the Syrians last night closed their
borders with Lebanon and Jordan.

NOTES

- A. Algeria: For the moment, the struggle for power remains a shouting match, but we see some signs that Ben Bella's forces may be gathering themselves for a push on Algiers.
- B. Netherlands-Indonesia: The finishing touches are about to be put on the West New Guinea agreement as both Djakarta and The Hague have moved to obtain legislative stamps of approval.

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DOCUMENTS OF INTEREST

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I.
II.

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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE